

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 25 (**Canceled**)

26. (**Currently Amended**) A process for preparing pharmaceutical compositions comprising from 10% to 50% w/w of ritonavir in relation to the weight of the final composition comprising the following steps:

- (a) dissolving from 10% to 50% w/w of ritonavir in relation to the weight of the final composition in ~~an excess amount of~~ sufficient amount of an alcohol solvent of C₂-C₄ to obtain a clear solution, at a temperature between 30°C and 45°C to make a first mixture;
- (b) eliminating ~~solid~~ particles from said first mixture by filtration;
- (c) evaporating the alcoholic solvent from the filtered first mixture under reduced pressure at a temperature not higher than 40°C to about half of its initial concentration volume;
- (d) adding to the filtered and concentrated first mixture an alcoholic co-solvent in an amount ranging from 5% to 20% w/w of the final composition, a medium chain mono/diglycerides mixture in an amount ranging from 20% to 40% w/w of the final composition, an antioxidant in an amount ranging from 0.001% to 2% w/w of the final composition, an emulsion-stabilizing agent in an amount up to 60% w/w of the final composition and a polarity corrector in an amount up to 0.5% w/w of the final composition to make a second mixture;
- (e) removing the alcoholic solvent of step (a) from said second mixture by distilling under reduced pressure to correct the weight of said second mixture until the remaining quantity of alcoholic solvent is between 5% and 20% w/w of the final composition;
- (f) adding to the distilled second mixture a surfactant in an amount ranging from 0.1% to 20% w/w of the final composition under continuous stirring, until the second mixture becomes a clear solution, thereby obtaining a ~~soluble~~, stable and concentrated ritonavir pharmaceutical composition; and
- (g) correcting, if necessary, the final weight of the pharmaceutical composition by adding the alcoholic solvent employed in the step (a) to obtain a solution comprising from 10% to 50% w/w of ritonavir.

27. **(Previously Presented)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the alcoholic solvent used in step (a) is ethanol.
28. – 29. **(Canceled)**
30. **(Previously Presented)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the co-solvent employed in step (d) is propylene glycol.
31. **(Canceled)**
32. **(Previously Presented)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the antioxidant employed in step (d) is butylated hydroxy toluene or alpha-tocopherol.
33. **(Previously Presented)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the emulsion-stabilizing employed in step (d) is polyethylene glycol 400 (PEG 400).
34. **(Previously Presented)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the polarity corrector employed in step (d) is citric acid or ascorbic acid.
35. **(Previously Presented)** The process in accordance with claim 26, wherein the surfactant employed in step (f) is polyethoxylated castor oil 35, polyethoxylated hydrogenated castor oil 40, polysorbate 20, polysorbate 40, polysorbate 60, polysorbate 80 or a mixture of at least two thereof.
36. **(Canceled)**
37. **(Previously Presented)** A stable pharmaceutical composition prepared by the process of claim 26 comprising:
 - ritonavir in an amount ranging from 10% to 50% w/w of the final composition;
 - a mixture of alcoholic solvent and alcoholic co-solvent of C₂-C₄ in a total amount ranging from 10% to 30% w/w of the final composition;
 - a mixture of C₈-C₁₀ medium chain mono/diglycerides in an amount ranging from 20% to 40% w/w of the final composition;
 - a pharmaceutically suitable surfactant in an amount ranging from 0.1% to 20% w/w of the final composition;
 - an antioxidant in an amount ranging from 0.001% to 2.0% w/w of the final composition.
38. **(Previously Presented)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, which further comprises:

an emulsion-stabilizing agent in an amount ranging up to 60% w/w of the final composition;

a polarity corrector agent in an amount up to 0.5% of the final composition.

39. **(Previously Presented)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, comprising the alcoholic solvent in an amount ranging from 5.0% to 15% w/w of the final composition.
40. **(Previously Presented)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, comprising the alcoholic co-solvent in an amount ranging from 5.0% to 15% w/w of the final composition.
41. **(Previously Presented)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, wherein the alcoholic solvent is ethanol and the alcoholic co-solvent is propylene glycol.
42. **(Previously Presented)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, wherein the surfactant is polyethoxylated castor oil 35, polyethoxylated hydrogenated castor oil 40, polysorbate 20, polysorbate 40, polysorbate 60 or a mixture of at least two thereof.
43. **(Previously Presented)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37, wherein the antioxidant is butylated hydroxy toluene or alpha-tocopherol.
44. **(Currently Amended)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 37 38, wherein the emulsion-stabilizing agent is polyethylene glycol 400 (PEG 400).
45. **(Previously Presented)** The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 38, wherein the polarity corrector agent is citric acid or ascorbic acid.